

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ATHENS 02152 151734Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 /086 W  
-----121859 160426Z /62

R 151640Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4967  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

UNCLAS ATHENS 2152

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR, GR, US  
SUBJECT: WIDE COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY'S ARRIVAL

1. THE ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY AND HIS FAMILY  
IN ATHENS MARCH 10 WAS ACCORDED WIDE COVERAGE BY THE GREEK MEDIA.  
THE EVENT WAS A PROMINENT NEWS ITEM OVER THE WEEKEND ON RADIO  
AND TV WHICH ALSO CARRIED EXCERPTS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S  
EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS TO NEWSMEN AT THE AIRPORT.

2. THE PRESS LIKEWISE REPORTED THE ARRIVAL EXTENSIVELY AND IN A  
GENERALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD FASHION, WITH ALMOST ALL NEWSPAPERS  
CARRYING PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MCCLOSKEY FAMILY. SEVERAL EDITORIALS  
APPEARED ON THE AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL. PRO-GOVERNMENT AKROPOLIS  
WROTE THAT PAST US-GREEK DIFFERENCES COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO  
MISUNDERSTANDINGS OR FAULTY EVALUATIONS ON THE PART OF WASHINGTON  
BUT THAT AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CORRECT  
THIS PROBLEM. THE TWO COMMUNIST PAPERS WARNED THE AMERICAN  
AMBASSADOR THAT GREECE WAS A SOVEREIGN NATION AND THE US MUST  
UNDERSTAND THAT OUTSIDE INTERVENTION WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED.  
LEFTIST ELEFTHEROTYPIA WROTE THAT AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY WAS ONLY THE  
SECOND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ASSIGNED TO GREECE SINCE THE CIVIL WAR,  
AND ALL THOSE WHO PRECEDED AMBASSADOR KUBISCH WERE "AMERICAN  
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HIGH COMMISSIONERS." IT CONCLUDED THAT AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY WOULD  
DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT BOTH GREECE AND CYPRUS ARE INDEPENDENT NATIONS

NOT TO BE DISMEMBERED BY AMERICAN MISTAKES OR NATIONAL INTERESTS.  
FINALLY, COLUMNIST GEORGE DROSSOS, WRITING IN INDEPENDENT,  
GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTING KATHIMERINI, COMMENTED THAT AMBASSADOR  
MCCLOSKEY'S ARRIVAL ENDED AN ANOMALY IN US-GREEK RELATIONS.

HE WENT ON TO CLAIM THAT US MISTAKES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR  
ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE, BUT THAT THIS FEELING COULD BE  
ELIMINATED IF THE US TOOK CONCRETE ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH IT. WORDS  
IN THEMSELVES WERE NOT ENOUGH.  
MCCLOSKEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AMBASSADORS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** WIDE COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY'S ARRIVAL  
**TAGS:** PEPR, OVIP, GR, US, (MCCLOSKEY, ROBERT J)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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